(a) whether India is going to export electric locomotives to South Africa, which has demanded such engines;

(b) if so, the number of locomotives to be exported; and

(c) the price of the locomotives to be exported and by when they are to be supplied to that country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) to (c) South African Railway has launched a programme for upgradation and renewal of its existing fleet of electric locomotives and has projected requirement of new high technology locomotives. Indian Railways is studying this requirement and an exploratory dialogue has already been started with South Africa. In this regard, a high level team from South African Railway also visited Chittaranjan Locomotive Works in December 2000 who had shown interest in sourcing of such locomotives and their sub-assemblies from India. Such possibilities are being examined and presently there is no firm proposal to export electric locomotives from India to South Africa.

Railway Canteen over main gutter line at Nagpur

4410. SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Railway Catering Department's Canteen at Nagpur is stationed above the main gutter line, having opened inside the canteen;

(b) if so, whether the passengers are forced to eat food prepared in unhygienic conditions;

(c) whether the Railway Board has received any complaint in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action proposed by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) The gutter line of station area passes under refreshment room also and two manholes are located there.

(b) The manholes are airtight and harmless to the occupants.

(c) No, sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.